

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 15, 1997

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 858

Introduced by Assembly Member Davis

February 27, 1997

An act to add ~~Section~~ *Sections 44202.5 and 44496.5* to the Education Code, relating to education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 858, as amended, Davis. Education: *Certification program of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards* ~~Certification—Program~~: California Mentor Teacher Program.

(1) Existing law establishes the California Mentor Teacher Program in furtherance of expressed legislative intent to encourage teachers currently employed in the public school system to continue to pursue excellence within their profession. The California Mentor Teacher Program prescribes criteria for teachers in participating school districts to be classified as mentor teachers. The program, among other things, provides for stipends to be paid to mentor teachers in addition to their regular salaries.

This bill would *provide that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a teacher from another state who is certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is eligible to teach in this state without a California teaching credential. The bill would provide that a teacher who qualifies to teach in this state pursuant to this provision shall be entitled*

to proper placement on a uniform salary schedule and all other benefits accruing, under the bill, to teachers certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards who hold California credentials.

The bill would express legislative intent that enactment of the bill provide support for, recognition of, and reciprocity with, teachers who intend to stand for certification through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and that incentives be provided to teachers in California schools to participate in the certification program of the National Board —Certification—Program for Professional Teaching Standards, utilizing existing funding provided through the California Mentor Teacher Program. The bill would provide that a California teacher who desires to participate in the certification program of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards may apply for funding therefor to a panel established, as specified, pursuant to the bill. This funding would consist of an amount, not to exceed one-half the cost of National Board for Professional Teaching Standards tuition, which would be matched by a grant from another source. The panel established by the bill would require recipients of a grant pursuant to the bill to enter into an agreement to teach in a California public elementary or secondary school for a period of 5 years, unless an exception is granted by the panel for good cause.

The bill would require that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a teacher who acquires a National Board certificate shall qualify both for classification as a mentor teacher and for receipt of a stipend. Because this bill would impose new duties on school districts that participate in the California Mentor Teacher Program, it would constitute a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 44202.5 is added to the
2 Education Code, to read:

3 44202.5. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
4 a teacher from another state who is certified by the
5 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards is
6 eligible to teach in this state without satisfying any
7 requirements of this chapter. A teacher who qualifies to
8 teach in this state pursuant to this section shall be entitled
9 to proper placement on a uniform salary schedule and all
10 other benefits accruing, pursuant to Section 44496.5, to
11 teachers certified by the National Board for Professional
12 Teaching Standards who hold California credentials.

13 SEC. 2. Section 44496.5 is added to the Education
14 Code, to read:

15 44496.5. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of
16 the following:

17 (1) A central challenge in school reform is the
18 challenge of seeking to enable the teaching profession to
19 attract the highest caliber novices and to retain the very
20 best veterans. To help accomplish this goal, a coalition of
21 teachers, administrators, politicians, and education
22 reform advocates founded the National Board for
23 Professional Teaching Standards in 1987.

24 (2) The mission of the National Board for Professional
25 Teaching Standards has been to create a first for
26 teachers--a national certification program that
27 recognizes the most accomplished teachers across the
28 country within their respective content areas and grade
29 levels.

30 (3) Unlike licensure, which aims to ensure minimum
31 competence, certification by the National Board for

1 Professional Teaching Standards would identify and
2 acknowledge the most talented members of the teaching
3 corps.

4 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that both of the
5 following occur:

6 (1) That the enactment of the act that adds this section
7 provide support for, recognition of, and reciprocity with,
8 teachers who intend to stand for certification through the
9 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

10 (2) That incentives be provided to teachers in
11 California schools to participate in the ~~National Board~~
12 ~~Certification Program~~ certification program of the
13 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
14 utilizing existing funding provided through the
15 California Mentor Teacher Program.

16 ~~(b)~~

17 (c) (1) A California teacher who desires to participate
18 in the certification program of the National Board for
19 Professional Teaching Standards may apply for funding
20 therefor to the panel established pursuant to paragraph
21 (2). Funding received pursuant to this subdivision shall
22 consist of an amount not to exceed one-half the cost of
23 National Board for Professional Teaching Standards
24 tuition, which shall be matched by a grant from another
25 source. The panel shall require recipients of a grant
26 pursuant to this section to enter into an agreement to
27 teach in a California public elementary or secondary
28 school for a period of five years, unless an exception is
29 granted by the panel for good cause.

30 (2) The panel shall consist of the Superintendent of
31 Public Instruction, the President of the University of
32 California, and the Chancellor of the California State
33 University, or their respective designees. The panel shall
34 review and screen applicants for funding under this
35 subdivision. Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
36 a teacher who acquires a ~~National Board certificate~~
37 ~~certificate from the National Board for Professional~~
38 Teaching Standards shall qualify for both of the following:

39 (1) Classification as a mentor teacher under this
40 article.

1 (2) Receipt of a stipend pursuant to Section 44494.

2 ~~SEC. 2.—~~

3 *SEC. 3.* Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the
4 Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates
5 determines that this act contains costs mandated by the
6 state, reimbursement to local agencies and school
7 districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7
8 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title
9 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the
10 claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million
11 dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from
12 the State Mandates Claims Fund.

13 Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government
14 Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act
15 shall become operative on the same date that the act
16 takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

